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Dancing Queens

Melanie Walter, left, and Ava Allaire skate to *Waterloo* by ABBA during Minden Skating Club's Carnival on Sunday, Apr. 2 at the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena. The club put on a production of *Mamma Mia* for their end-of-year show. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff

Company wants to bring treehouses to Minden Hills

by JAMES MATTHEWS

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Treehouses won't solve the housing predicament in Minden Hills, but there's an effort afoot to make them a tourist draw to the area.

Minden council heard an application when it met March 30 to rezone a property from designated rural to recreational commercial and hazard land zone to accommodate tourism establishment use.

The proponents are Cameron and Lauren Green of Fort Treehouse Company, which is billed as Canada's premier luxury treehouse company.

But these aren't your hobbled-together childhood treehouses of found-lumber and discarded nails picked from the floor of your father's workshop. They're "a transformative getaway experience that surprises the senses and inspires true exploration," says their website.

According to the information submitted in the application, the property currently has a single detached dwelling still under construction. It's to be serviced by pole mounted solar panels and propane as well as a private individual well and septic system.

The property is 15.26 acres with about 152.4 metres (500 ft) of frontage on Geeza Road.

The proponent hopes to build luxury treehouse rental accommodations, a single detached dwelling, retail space for the sale of food and beverages, A Welcome Centre, and a residential housing unit.

The dwelling will include a detached garage.

Cameron Green said he's been working with consulting arborists to identify suitable trees on the property.

"Through our selection process, we have to find trees that are the right distance from one another, the right species, sugar maple being preferred in our area, and have the health that's required at the size that's required to support the structures that we're proposing,"

During a site visit, municipal staff saw that the condition of Geeza Road adjacent to the subject property may not be adequate to facilitate the proposed development.

As the proposed development will change the use from residential to commercial, the application should include demonstration that the subject property complies with required sight lines for a commercial entrance.

As a result, staff directed that the applicant submit a Scoped Traffic Impact Brief to demonstrate that no impact to the township road will result from the proposed development; determine the adequacy of the existing road adjacent to the property and to determine the nature and extent of any improvements that may be required to the existing road to facilitate the proposed development; and to confirm that required sight lines for a commercial entrance can be met.

Sue Harrison, a planning consultant working with Fort Treehouse Company, said all requested reports have been provided and are awaiting to be peer reviewed.

She said some projects as they evolve become something they weren't initially intended. In those cases, she said further studies are warranted.

"But this project has remained substantially the same throughout this process,"

see COUNCIL page 2





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Council seeking more info on treehouses

Harrison said. "So we're surprised by this request (for more

She said a scoped traffic assessment is not necessary.

"In my experience, a traffic analysis is typically required when there's a significant development," she said. "To address traffic concerns, volume of traffic, safety on the road, access of emergency vehicles.

"In reality, this is a very small-scale development."

On an average day, Harrison said, there would be four to six cars added to the existing traffic levels. But a scoped traffic study would add another four to six months to the development review process.

"And I ask to what purpose?" she said.

The development's impact on nearby wetlands has been reviewed by RiverStone Environmental Solutions Inc. And an aquifer assessment was completed by EXP Services Inc. Both studies are awaiting peer review.

Bev Wicks of RiverStone said steps have been taken regarding proposed treehouse placement that would prevent wetlands and buffer zones being traversed by people.

"It's not fish habitat here," she said. "It is really just a spring that starts a watercourse flowing.'

Councillor Tammy McKelvey asked why the development's initially six treehouses have been scaled back to only

Harrison said Green submitted development plans that detailed up to six treehouses. The first phase would see three built and, should the proponents see fit to add more in the future, they wouldn't have to go through another rezoning

"(Municipal) planning staff did not want it to include the additional three, so we revised our ask to go back to the origi-



Cameron and Lauren Green of Fort Treehouse Company are looking to expand their offerings, and did a delegation to Minden council on March 30 to discuss. /photo by Danielle Meredith

nal three (treehouses)," Harrison said.

Coun. Pam Sayne applauded the treehouse idea.

"I'm really excited about this and I'm really looking forward to hearing what our planner has to say about this,"

Minden Hills draft budget has tentative 2.44% tax increase

by JAMES MATTHEWS

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Minden Hills has some work to do before the township can put a final 2023 municipal budget to paper.

Mayor Bob Carter said at the outset of a special meeting March 31 that the 2023 municipal capital and operating budget wouldn't be completed as there remains a number of

'There are lots of questions still to be answered, but we will be pushing forward," he said.

As it is in its latest draft, the municipal tax levy is \$9.9 million for a 2.44 per cent increase over last year.

Greg Bedard, the township's treasurer and finance director, said there's still a bit of work to be done to finalize 2022 yearend figures. Right it looks like there's a surplus of \$1.4-million, and that isn't likely to change very much.

"Take caution with that number, but also know that we're pretty close," he said.

Bedard said Safe Restart Funding has not been used to fund lost Provincial Offenses Act (POA) revenue. The 2022 budget included \$35,000 in expected revenue. The five-year prepandemic average annual revenue received is about \$40,000.

Bedard said using Safe Restart Funding for POA purposes would increase the surplus.

Ontario Community Infrastructure Funding (OCIF) of \$102,080 budgeted for the reconstruction of Bobcaygeon Road and Scotch Line Road has been applied to road reconstruction projects that were completed last year.

If that funding is carried forward into 2023 for the project identified, the surplus would decrease.

Bedard explained five transfers to reserve funds and detailed some of the priorities identified by staff as possible avenues to disperse some of the surplus money.

Staff suggested \$895,000 be applied to avoid taking on

debt for completed capital projects; that \$137,000 be applied to the cumulative cemetery deficit; that \$75,000 go to replenish the Building and By-law Reserve and another \$75,000 to replenish the Planning Reserve.

Staff allotted \$119,615 to the Accessibility Reserve for accessibility projects, which would represent half of the township's necessary contribution. And it's suggested the remaining \$115,971 be transferred to the Capital Projects Reserve.

Councillor Tammy McKelvey asked for an explanation of the cemetery deficit.

"I'm assuming we must budget that it's going to make money and it doesn't, so we carry this deficit every year," she said.

Bedard said the cemetery year-end position was simply dealt with in the subsequent year's budget. So a deficit was treated as an expense in the following budget.

"What I am proposing is that we move away from that practice," he said. "That we fund the year-end position of a cemetery in the year that it's incurred."

As for the suggested means of surplus money allocation, McKelvey said that wouldn't be decided until some of the bigger budgetary questions are answered and council is closer to a final spending plan.

"If council wishes to give us some rough direction on where you would like to see some of this money allocated, I wouldn't commit to the dollar amounts," Bedard said.

Rather, he said, council should commit to an area of spending in principle.

Bedard said assessment growth hasn't been touched upon since the first outing of budget discussions. Assessment growth will bring down the tax levy, he said.

"Depending on the nature of where our tax increase ends up, assessment growth is roughly a one per cent reduction in our tax levy," he said. "So, while we're at 2.44 (per cent) today, with our assessment growth that would be about 1.5

County tourism takes on maple season

by EMILY STONEHOUSE

Editor

With warm days scattered throughout the month of March, the maple season is in full swing ahead of schedule this year. Tracie Bertrand, the director of tourism for the County of Haliburton, has been eager to hit the ground running.

"This is our second year partnering with the Ontario Maple Syrup Producers Association (OMSPA), and we have featured all the maple operators in the area who are part of it," Bertrand told the *Times*.

OMSPA was started in 1966 as an organized board designed to represent maple producers across Ontario, and they currently represent 400 from across the province. Their mandates are dedicated to high-quality production and the best management practices available. There are six OMSPA recognized maple producers in the Haliburton Highlands.

Bertrand noted that maple syrup was traditionally seen as a small, seasonal activity, yet it should be seen as a viable, year-round business. "In tourism, yes, we promote it as a thing to do," said Bertrand, "but we need to consider these are agricultural producers. It's a big job."

OMSPA identified that in 2011, Ontario maple syrup producers made four million litres of syrup, which was valued at over 53 million. "Maple producers are businesses," said Bertrand, "it's really tied to the economic prosperity of the highlands."



With this in mind, Bertrand shared that the county tourism department is eager to continue celebrating the magic of maple season. "Maple season has been seen as a short-term trend," she said, "but what we are seeing now is that people want to understand the

process."

She noted that she has seen an uptick of interest in maple from culinary providers, wellness facilities, and tourism operators. "People don't just want the taste anymore, they want the whole experience," she said.

Maple season is in full swing in the Haliburton Highlands, with dozens of culinary and recreational experiences listed on the County of Haliburton's tourism website. /EMILY STONEHOUSE Staff

With the unpredictability with the traditional tourism seasons of summer and winter, Bertrand and her team have been brainstorming concepts that could carry the county's primary economic driver throughout the year. Historically, fall and spring seasons are trying times to plan and facilitate experiences.

"We are going to be calling these seasons 'the rejuvenation seasons'" said Bertrand, "and they will be times to rest, relax, and take a deep breath to collect ourselves." She said that by exploring the world of maple, this concept is put to practice.

"There are tremendous health benefits to maple syrup," she said. "It's no secret that wellness tourism is on the rise, and this gives us an opportunity to follow those trends that are set by our visitors."

The County of Haliburton has identified all Haliburton Highlands maple syrup producers on their tourism website, each one tied to a leaf-shaped marker on an embedded Google map, allowing visitors to explore the local maple operators, and showcase the industry in the region. You can find a full list of maple syrup providers, as well as maple-themed tours and experiences at myhaliburtonhighlands.com/maple-season.

www.mindenhills.ca

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EASTER OFFICE CLOSURE

Minden Hills Council & Staff wish everyone a Safe and Happy Easter Holiday Weekend. Please enjoy the holiday responsibly and within the Provincial guidelines. The Administration Offices and services will be CLOSED on Friday April 7th & Monday, April 10th.

EASTER MONDAY LANDFILL HOURS

All waste management facilities are open Monday, April 10th for Easter Monday, with the following hours: Scotch Line 9am - 5pm Ingoldsby, Iron Mine and Little Gull 12pm - 5pm

(VIRTUAL) COUNCIL MEETINGS

Council and Closed Session meetings are currently being conducted with a hybrid model of in-person and electronic participation in accordance with the Municipal Act. Members of the Public will participate electronically, until further notice. Meetings begin at 9:00 AM unless otherwise noted. The schedule of upcoming meetings are:

April 13 – Regular Council Meeting

April 27 - Regular Council Meeting

Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by joining a live-stream link available on the township CivicWeb Portal at mindenhills.civicweb.net/Portal/MeetingTypeList.aspx or by using the direct link provided in the notice. Meeting agendas are not displayed during the meeting; please download by visiting our CivicWeb Portal at mindenhills. civicweb.net/Portal/MeetingTypeList.aspx. Please note the live stream file/ video will be available to the public for the duration of one week after the

SPRING LOAD RESTRICTIONS (HALF LOADS) **IN EFFECT MARCH 17, 2023**

Half Load weight restrictions are placed on roadways and posted each year in the spring for approximately 1-2 months. Persons contravening this regulation will be prosecuted under Section 122 of The Highway Traffic Act. Please watch for and obey posted signage.

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING BUDGET DELIBERATIONS

Take Notice there will be a Special Meeting of Council held Thursday, April 6. 2023, at 9:00 AM in the Council Chambers, located at 7 Milne Street, Minden, ON. The purpose of the Special Meeting is to continue the 2023 Budget Deliberations and enter into a Closed Session meeting for the purpose of discussing the following items:

- One item pursuant to Section 239(2)(d) of the Municipal Act, 2001 as amended, regarding labour relations or employee negotiations;
- One item pursuant to Section 239(2)(e) of the Municipal Act, 2001 as amended regarding litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals, affecting the municipality or local board;

IMPORTANT LANDFILL CARD INFORMATION

Don't recycle your current Landfill Card, blue in colour, valid from May 1, 2021-April 30, 2023, it has been extended to the end of December 2023

A MESSAGE FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Spring Ice is Rotten Ice

Stop using the ice once spring thaws begin. Even if ice measures at the right thickness (minimum 10 cm or 4 inches for walking or skating alone), thawing and refreezing during spring weakens the ice vertically. The ice can no longer be trusted. Measure ice thickness in several locations Local conditions such as currents and water depths can affect ice thickness.

Consult knowledgeable local individuals. White ice has air or snow within it and should be considered suspect for recreational use. Recommendations for ice thickness are based on clear, blue, or green ice:

3" (7cm) or less - STAY OFF! 4" (10cm) - ice fishing, walking, cross country skiing 5-7" (13-18cm) - one snowmobile or ATV 8"-12" (20-30cm) - one car, group of people 12"-15" (30-38cm) - one medium truck (pickup or van)

DAYTIME BURNING & FIREWORKS REMINDER

Reminder that you will need a burn permit for daytime burning, 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM from April 1st to October 31st, and fireworks permit for the ignition of fireworks. A burn permit is issued for the season. Visit our website at mindenhills.ca for current fees. Contact the Fire Department for fireworks permit prior to the ignition of fireworks at 705-286-1202.

A new chapter for Occurrence owners

by EMILY STONEHOUSE

Editor

It's the end of an era for Minden locals Brigitte Gall and Michael Bainbridge as they head off to pursue a new adventure in Ottawa.

Bainbridge was recently offered the position of assistant collections manager for mineralogy at the Canadian Museum of Nature. The unique job opportunity meant that the couple and their children will be relocating to a new community. "We are so excited that Michael got his dream job," Gall shared with the *Times*, "but there are mixed feelings about leaving our little community for sure. I love the trees, I love the river, so much of our lives happened here."

In the winter of 2018, the couple embarked on a different dream: puzzles. During a particularly cold night, they found themselves and their friends stranded at a house party, all unable to leave due to the frigid temperatures. They watched as their companions circled around a coffee table with scattered puzzle pieces; absent-mindedly putting bits and pieces together as the conversations carried on late into the frosty night.

It was that evening that the concept of "The Occurrence" was born; a homegrown and Haliburton-proud jigsaw puzzle company. With high resolution photographs, museumgrade pigment inks on satin paper, and glued with archival adhesive onto 100 per cent recycled Eska board, the puzzles have taken off like wildfire, selling at trade shows, local shops, and online.

"We absolutely could not have done this anywhere else in the world," shared Gall.



Brigitte Gall and Michael Bainbridge, the owners of The Occurrence puzzle factory, are taking their next steps and relocating from Minden to outside of Ottawa. They will continue making puzzles, and puzzles will be available at Minden and Haliburton Up River locations. /photo submitted

She believes that this "wacky" idea was something that was supported, encouraged, and embraced by the community of doers and dreamers in the Haliburton Highlands. "We have a community of volunteers, of art-

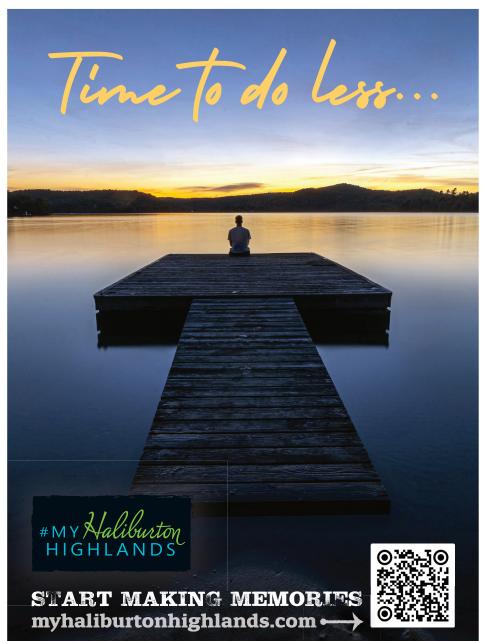
ists, of friends here, and that was truly what made the difference between surviving and not," she said.

Gall also referenced the immense amount of support they received from the Haliburton County Development Corporation (HCDC), and local businesses who carried their puzzles.

When asked about next steps for the business, Gall laughed. "Puzzle world domination? Is that a thing?" she chuckled. The couple has visions of expanding the business upon their relocation to the Ottawa region. "There is limited industrial space here," Gall said, referring to Haliburton County. They hope to find a space where their business can continue to expand. "It really has already grown in ways we never could have imagined," she said, "and the goal is to really continue to grow the company."

While The Occurrence's physical business location on Industrial Park Road in Haliburton closed it's doors on April 1, puzzles will continue to be available online at www.theocurrence.ca or at Up River locations in Minden and Haliburton. Gall and Bainbridge will also continue to offer the option of custom puzzles based on submitted images via their website.

While there is excitement about the next steps, both Gall and Bainbridge are feeling reminiscent about the support they received from the community during their chapter in the Haliburton Highlands. "I just want to thank everyone so much," said Gall, "I want to thank the people who came into our little store, the people who believed in it, the people who cared so much, without all of you, we could never have done any of this."



COVID-19-related visiting guidelines

Following direction from the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Long-Term Care, and the HHHS COVID-19 Steering Committee, the following changes will be in effect as of Monday, April 3, 2023.

Passive screening for entry

All HHHS facilities, including Long-Term Care, will shift from 'active' to 'passive' screening for COVID-19 and respiratory symptoms. This means that visitors to the Emergency Department, In Patient Department, and both Hyland Crest and Highland Wood Long-Term Care home will be presented by a list of screening questions upon arrival at HHHS facilities.

Visitors will be expected to self-screen, based on these questions, and not proceed with their visit if they have any symptoms.

Ending of testing requirement for long-term care visitors

Visitors to Hyland Crest and Highland Wood Long-Term Care homes will no longer be required to be rapid tested for COVID-19 before entry. Rapid antigen tests will be made available on-site at each Long-Term Care home for those who wish to self-test before entering the homes.

Visitor masking requirements

While all visitors to any HHHS facility will still be required to wear a medical-grade mask indoors, there are no requirements for masking by visitors conducting outdoor visits with Long-Term Care residents.

For more information about HHHS' visiting policies, please visit www.hhhs.ca.

Submitted by Haliburton Highlands Health Services

Ctrl-ART-Del's world premiere of Cherubs shines!

by JERELYN CRADEN Special to the Times

Without hoopla or fanfare, something momentous took place on March 31/April 1 at the Northern Lights Pavilion - the launch of Haliburton's new millennial-based theatre company, Ctrl-ART-Del, its world premiere of Cherubs, a wickedly dark comedy by British playwright, Toby McShane, and the directorial debut of local veteran theatre actor and producer, Tim Nicholson.

"I've been working in theatre a long time," Nicholson said, "the last few years primarily in Haliburton, and I noticed that the young people cast in major roles in the county were from out of town. Young locals weren't being given opportunities to be on stage. Getting older, I realized the need for younger people to be able to step into my shoes when I decide not to work on stage anymore."

Last July, Nicholson felt compelled to do something about it. He drew together a group of young talented local actors: Amy Leis, Andrew Case, Kelsey Crowe, Alexander Kocot and Hannah Klose who, with himself as Artistic Director and mentor, founded Ctrl-ART-Del in Haliburton. The new theatre company's name springs from the action of pressing three computer keys together to reboot an operating system: Ctrl-ALT-Del. The company's goal is to hit refresh/restart on theatre in the county by producing contemporary works centered on young and working age adults as cast, crew, and audience.

"We want to promote contemporary theatre," Nicholson said. "Anything written after 2010, very current. We're looking for



Screwtape (played by Amy Leis) holds up a bag of drugs while lecturing the angels. /ADAM FRISK special to the Times

new works, published/unpublished pieces. We're willing to workshop. We're talking about doing scene study and character workshops over the course of the summer for people who want to get involved and don't know how to get started."

Straight from their website at: www.ctrlartdel.ca, "Theatre at its best is made up of innovative new ideas. It pushes the envelope and challenges the status quo." And that's exactly what the team delivered with their

first production of Cherubs. Fresh, edgy, performed with high energy and comic panache, four young actors: Kelsey Crowe, Alexander Kocot, Amy Leis, and Andrew Case brought it home.

In an old farmhouse set amongst the hedgerows of Southeast England, (set designed and built by Nicholson) two disgraced angels, Montmartre and Gottlieb, plot to get back into Heaven. However, their negligence puts them at loggerheads with a new supervisor, Screwtape.

An attempt to cover up a serious act of unscrupulous bureaucratic behavior puts Montmartre and Gottlieb at risk of permanent exile, but Screwtape's self-interest offers them a lifeline. If successful, her scheme could return all three to Heaven. If not, it could totally wipe out humanity. The scheme blackmail God.

Amy Leis who developed the character of ultra buttoned-down, Screwtape, in a U.K. workshop of McShane's early script, delivered a stand-out performance capturing every comical nuance on the palette.

Andrew Case as Jasper, rounded out the fine comic performances in the four-hander play, with Kelsey Crowe (as Montmarte) and Alexander Kocot (as Gottlieb) setting the tone from lights up to sparking McShane's edgy comedy throughout. Nicholson's direction impressed, and as Artistic Director, producer and founding member, he has pointed Ctrl-ART-del in the right direction – toward a future of fresh, cutting-edge, contemporary shows made by and produced for young and working-age adults who will get their chance to come aboard and take the stage!

Behind the scenes support was provided by: Sandy Slote, Stage Manager, Hannah Klose and Kendra Korpela, Assistant Stage Managers, Tasha Willis, Lighting Technician, and Front of House Team: Emily Klose, Jennifer Jackson-Korpela, and Quinn Salverda.

For more Ctrl-ART-Del information, news, and opportunities visit: www.ctrlartdel.ca











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HE COUNTY of Haliburton shared that they are diving head first into the world of

To no one's surprise, the summer and winter seasons are taking a hit. Between unpredictable weather patterns, spiking gas prices, and an ongoing accommodation shortage, the previously peak tourism times are on the decline.

This isn't news. This has been a long time coming, despite climate change activists yelling from the rooftops about the inevitability of a major shift. Now, it's here.

With this change in mind, the Haliburton County tourism department needed to think outside the box. With tourism on the forefront of the region's

economic prosperity, something had to be done with the shoulder seasons.

Enter: maple syrup. The sweet and sticky resource has been recognized as a Canadian treasure for decades. Everyone in this community knows someone who boils down watery sap from leaking trees; a labour of love

truly unbeknownst to many around the world.

There is something cathartic about the act of making maple syrup. Maybe it's the creation of something out of seemingly nothing. Maybe it's the fresh air that fills winter-stagnant lungs. Maybe it's the relationship with the past; the tapping of the trees and the knowledge that others have been thinking the same thoughts that fill our maple-laden minds.

The art and science of maple syrup has been dabbled with for centuries, with records of Indigenous tribes sharing their knowledge of the practice with colonizers as early as 1606.

Since then, the popularity has steadily climbed, with research pouring out about the health benefits, producers making a livelihood out of it, and tourism providers capitalizing on the

aura of adventures that surrounds the practice.

It really is the most "Canadian" experience out there.

I had the opportunity to visit a sugar shack this past weekend. As I watched my kids take sips of sap, fresh from the dripping bark; their sticky chins beaming back at me through towering trees while the steady "ping" of drops hitting buckets echoed through the forest, I realized how lucky we are.

Lucky to have this resource in our backyards. Lucky to have access to this experience. Lucky to carry the knowledge of maple; the wisdom that was passed down year after year to eager ears.

It makes sense that the tourism department wants to hop on the

> buttermilk bandwagon and take off into the mirage of maple.

But that being said, I hope it is done with caution. I hope the touristic approach to capitalizing on this age-old resource is sustainable, respectable, and inclusive. While maple syrup is an agricultural asset, it

is also deeply rooted in historical knowledge, personal stories, and the natural world.

As human beings (specifically colonizers), we don't exactly have a great track record of treating our resources with care. Generally, once we find something we like, it's been our prerogative to deplete, drain, and dump. Forests have been burned, animals have been hunted, air has been smoked, oceans have been polluted.

Maple syrup carries the magic to connect people together. Whether that be around a roaring campfire on a drizzly March day, or to the generations that tapped trees over the decades before us; it is woven into the fabric of each and every Canadian, and it is our responsibility to keep that magic alive.



■HERE ARE plenty of rewarding activities for the outdoorswoman or man to partake of in spring, but none is more rewarding and joyful than training with your dog. This is an activity that benefits the dog and the human because it clarifies once and for all who is the alpha of the pack. And that understanding is critical if you plan on working together as a team during the autumn hunting seasons.

I have been out for the last several mornings with my English springer spaniel Rosie working predominantly on the

basics: retrieving, recall, and heeling off leash. And I am very happy to say that we are making real progress with all three.

Oh sure, there are moments when I get distracted by birds when she sends me out for the training dummy, but mostly, I'm getting the hang of it pretty well - especially when you consider that she's not bribing me with treats anymore.

(I was putting on too much weight.) Heeling off-lead is still a bit of a challenge for me, however - mostly because it is not easy to keep up with a young, athletic English springer spaniel. On the plus side, I can honestly say that my recall is 100 per cent. When Rosie barks for me, I join her as quick as I can.

Most of these successes can be credited to Rosie being a very patient and skillful trainer. She has been consistent in her praise and in rewarding my successes. I particularly like when she barks, "Good boy" or scratches me behind my ears. The belly rubs are not too bad either.

Of course, we have been training year-

round. But spring is the ideal time to train because Rosie and I also get to work on water retrieves – which is the thing I need to improve on most before duck season. I still can't get used to feathers in my mouth, but we are working on it.

Some people start their training a little later in the year, when the water is warmer, but I think that is a mistake.

I cannot overstress the importance of regular dog training for the outdoorsman. Even short lapses in training, such as our two-week break in March, can lead to both members of the human-dog team being

confused about their roles.

For example, when we resumed our spring training exercises, I thought Rosie was the one who was supposed to retrieve, recall, and heel off leash. Two training sessions later, however, it all came back to me.

The trick with all training is to keep training sessions short because of the short attention span of the simple creature

being trained. Typically, about 10-minute training sessions is the most Rosie can get out of me before my mind wanders.

Consistency is also important. If her bark commands or paw signals are not issued in the same way, I tend to get confused. It's also important to keep the training sessions positive and fun, otherwise I tend to sleep in.

This training is not the be all and end all of how my pup and I are making the most of spring. But it is bringing us closer together and making us a cohesive team which should mean great things in the hunting season to come. But only if Rosie can break me from treeing squirrels.



EMILY STONEHOUSE Editor



STEVE GALEA

Beyond 35

INOTHERWORDS

Columns and Letters to the Editor

Standing up and speaking out

M STARTING to see why Canada is a racist country, and why it will continue to be. It's us, the people. We do little to stand up and denounce racism when we see it.

And, we see it a lot. Here's a recent example from *The National Post*, a Conservative Toronto newspaper seemingly unaware that socially traditional ideas supported by true Conservatives do not include saying whatever you want about anyone.

The Post, in a comment section on Gov.-Gen. Mary Simon's travel spend-



JIM POLING SR. From Shaman's Rock

ing, allowed one commenter to call her a cigar store statue – a clear reference to 'cigar store Indian.' Gov.-Gen. Simon is an Inuk from Nunavik with an impressive career as a broadcaster and advocate for Inuit rights, youth, education and culture.

The fact that someone would make such a racial comment about her is shocking. Doubly shocking is the fact that the newspaper allowed it to be published. Triply shocking is the fact that no one seems to have stood up publicly to condemn it.

The commentator also had racially-related words for former governors general. He said Michaëlle Jean, Canada's first black governor general, was a

woke Haitian diversity hire and Adrienne Clarkson, a Chinese-Canadian, was a hypocritical scammer.

The Post invites "lively but civil" comment on its articles. Its owners and its publisher should be asking their editor why he wasn't doing his job in upholding the newspaper's guidelines on comments. Readers should be demanding that the comments be removed.

It's important that the media reveal spending by the governor general and that commentators criticize it when it is shockingly high. Like the \$1.1 million spent on Gov.-Gen. Simon's trip to the Middle East last year. But including her ethnicity in the criticism is straight out racism.

Racism is more frequent in Canada that most of us like to think. A few years back an Ontario Human Rights Commission survey found that 40 per cent of racialized people in Ontario said they experienced discrimination because of their race or colour.

Racialized young people in the 15 to 24 age bracket have an unemployment rate of 23 per cent, compared with 16 per cent for non-racialized youth. Also, racialized people tend to hold the lower paying jobs,

Governments and various anti-racism organizations talk about the efforts they are making to stop racism. For instance, the federal government is spending \$45 million to fight racism and discrimination. The money has established an Anti-Racism Secretariat and is funding community-based initiatives such as seminars.

Presumably that is tax money well spent and will help educate many people about racism. But truckloads of government money will not eliminate racism. More individual effort is needed by each one of us.

Most of us stay quiet when we witness racism. Someone casually makes a racial-tinged comment or a racist joke. We let it pass, afraid to be seen as condescending, or of embarrassing or shaming the speaker, who might have made the comment without fully thinking about its impact.

It might be more comfortable for everyone to simply let the comment pass, but as Dr. Martin Luther King once said "the appalling silence of the good people" is as damaging as the vitriolic words and actions of the bad.

We as individuals need to think about ways to confront racist talk without creating resentment that might make a person less likely to be more thoughtful about what they say.

Comebacks such as "that's not been my experience" or "that's a comment that makes me uncomfortable" tend to get a message across without creating embarrassment or causing an argument. Soft comebacks might even create an opening for a thoughtful conversation about racist talk.

Differences in people, such as skin color and language, create opportunities for racism. They shouldn't. People are simply people.

In the end we are all basically the same. If we look back thousands of years we all had the same ancestors.

And, if we look ahead hundreds of years, migration and population mixing likely will have us all looking and talking much the same.

Assuming the world lasts that long.



Egg-celent traditions

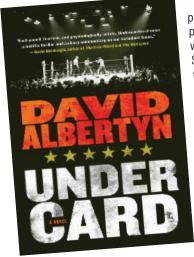
One-year-old Blythe Love of Dorset sits happily beside her Easter tree. /Photo submitted



Sprint into spring!

Warmer temperatures are causing excitement for kids around the area. Pictured, Ruby and Pearl Mansfield play tag through the fields in Minden. / **EMILY STONEHOUSE Staff**

HCPL's Book of the Week



Calling all fans of grit, gambling, and a good uppercut! This fast-paced and acclaimed thriller takes place over just 24 hours and invites readers into the world of professional boxing with the story of Tyron Shaw, just returned after twelve years to his hometown of Las Vegas. Shaw soon discovers that two of his oldest friends are set to square off in a highprofile prizefight, and their recent histories – one an ex-con and the other a police officer who killed an unarmed teenager - are at odds with his memories of them. Soon he will be tangled up in a web of highstakes secrets, questions, and conflicting loyalties. One of the most buzzed about books of the year, Undercard is a gripping and psychological page

Undercard by David Albertyn is available to borrow from the Haliburton County Public Library.

Local podcaster giving a voice to 'unique challenges'

by EMILY STONEHOUSE

Editor

"My entire life I've been a talker, thought I might as well make a career out of it," laughed Benen Dykstra podcaster and voiceover artist, as he chatted about his story with the *Times*.

Dykstra was born ten weeks early, which resulted in a diagnosis of Spastic Quadriplegia Cerebral Palsy; a condition that impacts his left arm, and both his legs. "Cerebral Palsy, like many things, is a spectrum," he shared. "Some people aren't able to speak, some can't use their arms, some can't use their legs, I think it's important to note that every individual is different."

Growing up, he gave himself the nickname of "Rolling Dragon" in high school. "I wanted to really own the fact that I'm in a wheelchair," he said, "and dragons are these mythical creatures. They have no limitations. And I wanted to be like that. No limitations."

Dykstra has a deep love for "anything artsy", sharing that he has spent five years working on a fantasy novel, has dabbled in recording music, and in October of 2022, he launched his original podcast, titled Sit Down and Stand Out.

"I am trying to eliminate all these stupid stigmas that have been around for decades," he said. "People with all sorts of conditions are capable of more than you realize."

In six short months, the podcast has hosted guests from the U.S., England, Germany, Australia, and Canada. "If the podcast is about not seeing people for their limitations, then I won't be limiting where they're com-



ing from either," laughed Dykstra.

He shared that while guests come from all spans across the globe, they all have one thing in common: "We all have unique challenges," he shared; whether that be physical, mental, or emotional. Dykstra has interviewed folks with cerebral palsy, gynecomastia, bipolar disorder, depression, addictions, anxiety, and more. "Yes, there are challenges," he said, "but we talk about how we could work around them."

Dykstra shared that the concept of the podcast emerged when he struggled to find work due to his condition. He graduated from radio broadcasting at Durham College in Oshawa, and relocated to the Haliburton Highlands four years ago to join his family.

Dykstra started his podcast, Sit Down and Stand Out, to highlight individuals with "unique challenges" around the world. The podcasts air every Wednesday morning at 7 a.m. /Photo submitted

Benen

He said that he has applied to many jobs in the field, but feels as though those hiring struggle to see beyond his wheelchair. "I was frustrated with the opportunities that were available for all types of disabilities," he said. "I may require some accommodations, but that doesn't mean I can't contribute to your business, and help it succeed."

In an attempt to find employment, Dykstra started working alongside Tim Tofflemire, the employment coordinator at Job Quest. This was when the idea for Sit Down and Stand Up began to take shape. "Tim said to me, 'you've got a lot to say, you should do a podcast', so I started to think about that,"

While in college, Dykstra shared that pod-

casts helped him manage the stressors that come with post-secondary life, and really supported and enhanced his mental health at the time. He had dabbled in trying out a few podcast ideas prior to his current undertaking, but felt as though they lacked creativity and originality. "I wanted to do something that was new, that other people hadn't done before," he said.

With over three million podcasts available online, the life of a podcaster is far from easy. "If you want to be successful, it's not something that is going to happen overnight," shared Dykstra. He noted that each interview he does requires over five hours of work to edit, resulting in a 20 to 30 minute final take, which is aired at 7 a.m. on Wednesdays in an attempt to bring a little joy and inspiration to listeners in the mornings.

Dykstra finds his guests via a program called "Backstage" which is a talent tracker, or via Instagram influencers. He generally tries to stick to a theme with his guests, and organize interviews months in advance. In April, the theme will be limb difference awareness and autism, to align with the significant dates throughout the month.

While the podcasts take time to facilitate and create, Dykstra said that they are eyeopening to not only listeners, but also to himself and the guests he welcomes on the show. "It's amazing to hear how similar we all are," he said."We all have these similar passions and challenges, but we all have different ways we've dealt with them.'

Sit Down and Stand Out is a free podcast, available on Apple, Spotify, Amazon Music, I Heart Radio, and via Dykstra's website, www.rollingdragonmedia.com.



Send your event listing to classifieds@haliburtonpress.com

Minden Legion Branch 636

Lunch - Monday to Friday Monday: Rug Hookers every second week. Bid Euchre 1 to 3 p.m.

Tuesday: Food 5 p.m. Canoe FM Bingo 6 p.m.

Thursday: Cribbage 1 to 3 p.m., Darts 7 to 9 p.m. and Euchre 7 to 9

Every other Friday: Karaoke 8 to 11

Friday Fish & Chips & Wings. Lunch 11a.m. to 2 p.m. and Dinner 4 to 7 p.m. Every other Friday Karaoke 8 to 11

Saturday All Day Breakfast 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. with three Meat draws at 11

Call ahead any day for take-out: 705-286-4541

Schedules are subject to change without notice. Check our Facebook page Minden Legion Branch 636 for more info.

When: April 11 to May 31 Where: Archie Stouffer Elementary and Haliburton High

Local volunteers and Basketball Canada have teamed up to bring a curriculum-based youth basketball program to the county! Visit www. haliburtonbasketball.com for information.

Red Wolves Special Olympics Dinner Dance Fundraiser

When: Saturday, Apr. 15., Social 5 p.m. and dinner 6 p.m.

Where: Haliburton Legion Come dressed in your best western themed gear. Enjoy beef on a bun with all the fixin's. potato salad, coleslaw, and our famous homemade desserts. D.J. Ron Murphy, photo booth, spot dances, Silent and country auctions, 50/50 draw. Tickets are \$25 each - available at Up River Trading Company in Haliburton or Minden. Tickets are cash only in store.

Exhibition "Library of Dresses": Michelle Karch-Ackerman with Tanya Zaryski

April 15 to end of June

Rails End Gallery, 23 York St, Haliburton Karch - Ackerman's "Library of Dresses" pairs with Zaryski's Rewilding paintings in a magic and wonder filled exhibition that honours creative play and intuition and joy in an approach to making.



Easter in the Gardens gears up for second year

by EMILY STONEHOUSE

Editor

One of the most anticipated events of this early spring season is Easter at the Gardens, hosted by Abbey Gardens. "Last year, we sold out the event with over 200 kids," said Ashley McAllister, director of operations at Abbey Gardens, "this year, we have even more great things to offer."

The festive day starts Apr. 8 at 11 a.m., and kicks off right away with an Easter egg hunt around the Gardens. Folks are encouraged to bring their own basket for this portion. There will also be Easter crafts, a scavenger hunt, cookie decorating, photos with the Easter Bunny, and selfies with the Abbey Gardens ponies. "The ponies love the attention," McAllister chuckled, "this is one of our most popular events."

Proceeds from Easter in the Gardens go directly back into community programming for the facility. Tickets are \$15 per child, and adults are by donation. "We love to offer these types of special events for locals and visitors, and we are trying to make Abbey Gardens a hub where families know that there is always something going on," shared

With the popularity of past years, McAllister has noted that pre-registration is



The Easter Bunny will be returning to Abbey Gardens on Saturday, April 8 to celebrate Easter at the Gardens. /Photo submitted

required so the team at Abbey Gardens can prepare to have enough eggs, treats, and prizes for all attendees.

Easter in the Gardens runs from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. on April 8 at Abbey Gardens. For more information and to register for the event, visit www.abbeygardens.ca



Eagle Lake **Community Church** was station 7 on the Stations of the Cross tour last year.

Stations of the Cross Tour prepares hearts for Easter

by VIVIAN COLLINGS

Times Staff

Nine churches across the County will be participating in the third-annual Stations of the Cross Tour, a Christian celebration of the life, death, and ressurection of Jesus at

Each participating church will have pieces of local art on display that "represent Jesus" journey to the Cross.'

Amy Turner, new minister of pastoral care at West Guilford Baptist Church, said Easter is a time of reflecting, renewing, and rejoicing.

"The Stations of the Cross event really facilitates all of these. Each station provides opportunities to look with fresh eyes on what it means that Jesus loves each and every one of us so deeply, so unimaginably much that he chose to die the death he did," Turner said.

She has been in her role at the West Guilford church since June 2022 after moving from the city.

"I love Haliburton," Turner said. "My husband grew up here and we've been coming

back for family gatherings for over 20 years, so the area is familiar and one that I already have fond memories of."

She is an artist herself and is inspired by the Haliburton landscape around her.

"It's been one of the deepest joys of my life so far. The people I serve are so beautiful and the church community felt like family from the beginning. That wasn't surprising given what a loving man Pastor Brian is," she said.

Turner is looking forward to the Stations of the Cross tour and getting to show the County all of the meaningful art placed at each church.

Participating churches are Ingoldsby United Church, Lochlin United Church, St. George's Anglican Church in Haliburton, St. Anthony's of Padua Mission Church in Haliburton, Lakeside Church/Lighthouse Pentecostal Church in Haliburton, Northland Faith Church in Haliburton, Eagle Lake Community Church, and West Guilford Baptist Church.

For more information on each station and to view the map, visit mylakeside.ca/ sochaliburton/.





Why Your Opinion Matters



You may have seen the recent Resident Sentiment Survey (RSS) that was shared online in December. In this fourth installment of six, we are picking up and adding to last month's theme with a further look at the County's Department of Tourism and how the work done here impacts the overall prosperity of the Haliburton Highlands.

The County of Haliburton's Office of Tourism plays a critical role in not only promoting the region's natural beauty and unique experiences, but in also actively engaging the local community in these efforts as a way of building up the destination to the benefit of allvisitors and residents alike.

One of the key roles of the office is to create and execute effective marketing campaigns to attract visitors to the region. This includes developing a strong brand identity for the County of Haliburton, highlighting the region's natural attractions, cultural events, and outdoor activities. By effectively promoting the region to a wider audience, the office helps to increase visitor numbers, which in turn drives the local economy.

Some of the various marketing activities the office engages in include:

- The development of the 2023 Explore Map
- The development and distribution of the visitor newsletter (which as mentioned last month continues to outperform industry standards when it comes to engagement)
- Working with 'Kawartha Now' experts in digital marketing to promote hiking in the Highlands, reaching a very targeted audience (younger demographics, cottage enthusiasts, and reaching markets in the GTA that are specifically interested in escaping
- Promoting the Haliburton Highlands on the Ontario Road Map and our hiking trails on the Ontario Trails Map
- And much more

The development and continuous enhancement of the tourism website – MyHaliburtonHighlands.com – is also an integral part of promoting the destination and enhancing the visitor experience. Staff are always busy upgrading the site, adding new pages (such as a new events calendar for live entertainment), new blogs, and, just recently, a new itinerary feature that is integrated with Google maps to improve visitor mobility.

Furthermore, the Office of Tourism recognizes the importance of community involvement in tourism development and continually engages with residents, community groups, and small business owners to ensure the visitor economy benefits the entire community. This can include collaborating with local organizations to develop cultural and heritage tourism initiatives, supporting local festivals and events, and promoting sustainable tourism practices that minimize negative impacts on the environment and local community.

The office also provides resources and support to local entrepreneurs and small business owners by way of in-person visits (over 75 to-date) and one-on-one consultations. They provide valuable resources, such as market research, and offer training and mentorship opportunities in partnership with various industry associations.

The Office of Tourism plays a vital role in promoting the Haliburton Highlands and building a sustainable and prosperous tourism industry that benefits both residents and visitors. Through effective marketing campaigns, community involvement, and support for local businesses. the office helps to increase visitor numbers. drive the local econ minimize negative impacts on the environment. As it continues to engage with residents, community groups, and small business owners, the Haliburton Highlands will undoubtedly continue to thrive as a desirable and sought-after destination for years to come.



Watch this space for more information relating to the results of the RSS. In the meantime, if you have any questions at all, please get in touch with Tracie Bertrand, Manager of Tourism for Haliburton County, at tbertrand@haliburtoncounty.ca.

Breaking it down:

KASSIE BRADLEY

Wellness Corner with Kassie

RTHO = JOINT; Itis = Inflammation As a new patient at my clinic, I have everyone fill out an Initial Intake Form. A section of this is dedicated to health history. One of the check boxes that is frequently selected is marked, "Osteoarthritis?" As we review the form together and inquire about this selection, most people say something along the lines of, "well I have

my knees, maybe my back?' The diagnosis of arthritis seems to be a confusing one. What exactly does it mean?

arthritis, some in my hands,

What are the symptoms? Is there anything you can do about it to change your fate? Does it cause pain? To help answer these questions I am going directly to the Arthritis Society of Canada. This National Charity is dedicated to research, advocacy, information and support for those with arthritis.

Arthritis itself is a very broad term. In fact it encompasses a group of over 100 diseases which can affect any part of the body. The main characteristic of this disease is inflammation of the joints. When you think of inflammation, think of redness and swelling that lead to pain and stiffness. Arthritis is a chronic condition and there is no cure. It's very common, affecting 1 in 5 Canadians.

Arthritis can be broken down into 2 main categories; Osteoarthritis and Inflammatory Arthritis. Osteoarthritis is historically defined as "wear and tear." It's the breakdown of cartilage which is a connective tissue that protects the joints. The second, more aggressive type of arthritis is Inflammatory Arthritis, which are mostly a result of an Autoimmune Disorder. Your body is attacking its own healthy tissues. This is a systemic disorder, as it affects the whole body.

Think of cartilage like the rubber on your car tires. It's strong and flexible, absorbs shock and reduces friction with the road. Once the rubber on your tires wears out, what happens to your ride? It gets bumpy, rough, and causes damage to the underlying car structure. It's the same thing with your bones. As cartilage wears out; joint pain, reduced range of movement, stiffness, and swelling can occur.

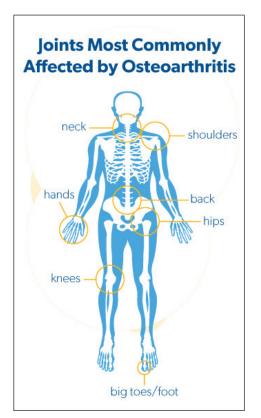
When I was younger, I remember my Grandmother sitting in her chair, knitting for hours upon hours. I can still visualize her hands; thin, veiny, with large bumps in the joints. When I asked her why she knitted so much, she would say, "it helps the arthritis in my hands." Have you ever heard the term motion is lotion? A painful joint caused by Osteoarthritis doesn't mean you have to rest it. In fact, not enough movement can cause muscle weakness, which leads to worsening joint pain and stiffness. It's important to strengthen the muscles and connective tissue around the joints which increases blood flow and helps to promote normal joint mechanics. Physical activity can be as simple as vacuuming the house, walking to work, knitting, and even gardening. Do this gradually, and build your tolerance to help improve and maintain your mobility.

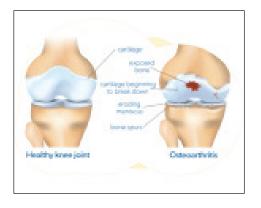
There are guidelines in place for the self management of arthritis. Lifestyle changes including increasing physical activity and reducing excess body weight can

have the greatest impact on Osteoarthritis. If unsure where to start, check out the arthritis. ca website. They have self assessment tools and guidelines to help you become more knowledgeable. Next, speak with your healthcare provider. A qualified professional can work with you to develop a custom progressive exercise program. This is important because the frequency, intensity, type and duration will vary

from person to person. The focus is range of motion, strength, and building endurance.

There are also various treatments available such as laser therapy and aquatic therapy, which can help treat symptoms, reduce pain and inflammation, and improve overall function. Even though arthritis is a chronic condition and the severity varies from person to person, there are many tools and therapies available to help you live comfortably. Knowledge is power so be proactive in your diagnosis and inform yourself to help you function at your best.







Have a thought, comment or opinion you'd like to share?

Send a letter to the editor to emily@haliburtonpress.com

COVID-19 assessment centre closed

With a reduction in demand for services at Community Assessment Centres across the province and current testing guidance, the Haliburton County COVID-19 Assessment Centre closed its doors March 31, 2023.

Now, anyone in the community who wishes to access a COVID-19 test, assessment, or treatment can:

- contact their pharmacy or locate the nearest pharmacy that provides COVID-19 testing
- contact their primary care provider, such as a family doctor or nurse practitioner (patients of the Haliburton Family Medical Centre may call 705-457-1212 and press option 6)
- · call 811 or visit ontario.ca/health811 for more information about testing, assessment, and treatment
- consult www.ontario.ca/assessment-centre-locations for an open assessment centres

Community members who think they may have COVID-19 and are seeking treatment should act quickly. Treatment

Treatment plant begins bypass

Please be advised that due to high flows caused by rain, the Minden Wastewater Treatment Plant began a tertiary sand filter bypass on the evening of April 1, 2023. All wastewater treated at the plant is still receiving primary and secondary treatment and disinfection prior to discharge. Sand filtering will resume as soon as possible.

Ontario Clean Water Agency will notify the local health authorities and will be completing sampling as per the Environmental Compliance Approval.

Residents are reminded that any water taken from a surface water source (such as a lake or river) must always be adequately treated to remove pathogens prior to using as a potable water source.

Updates regarding this bypass event will be posted on the Township website.

For more information, please visit www.mindenhills.ca for accurate updates

Submitted



Applicant: Squire

Lot 11, Concession 9, Halls Lake Geographic Township of Stanhope

WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Algonquin Highlands has declared part of the original shore road allowance lying in front of Lot 11, Concession 9, Halls Lake, in the geographic Township of Stanhope, in the Township of Algonquin Highlands, County of Haliburton.

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Municipal Corporation of the Township of Algonquin Highlands proposes to enact a By-Law to stop-up, close and convey to the abutting property owner(s) that part of the original shore road allowance lying in front of Lot 11. Concession 9, described as all and singular that certain parcel or tract of land and premises situate, lying and being in the Geographic Township of Stanhope, in the County of Haliburton and being composed of the following:

FIRSTLY: THAT PART of the Original Shore Allowance in front of Lot 11, Concession 9, Geographic Township of Stanhope, Township of Algonquin Highlands, County of Haliburton, being Part 4 on the attached

Reference Plan 19R-10321

The proposed By-Law will come before the said Council for consideration at its regular meeting at the Algonquin Highlands Municipal Office, 1123 North Shore Road, on the 20th day of April, 2023 and at that time, the Council claims that his/her land will be prejudicially affected and who applies to be heard. Any person who wishes to be heard by Council regarding this proposed closure must contact the Clerk to schedule a delegation with Council.

Dated: April 5th, 2023

Sean O'Callaghan

Planner Township of Algonquin Highlands 1123 North Shore Rd. Algonquin Highlands, ON K0M 1J1 Tel: (705) 489-2379

Email: socallaghan@algonquinhighlands.ca

needs to be started within five days of the start of symptoms. If community members or their child has severe symptoms, or they are worried their child is severely ill, they should call

911 or visit the nearest Emergency Department. For adults, severe symptoms include:

- shortness of breath
- chest pain

For children, severe symptoms include:

- working hard or straining to breathe (for example, the lower chest is moving in more than normal)
- when the child breathes, they are grunting or their nostrils are flaring
- bluish skin
- unable to breastfeed or drink
- · loss of consciousness
- confusion
- very sleepy or difficult to wake
- · urinating less than usual
- fever with rash
- seizures or convulsions
- fever in an infant younger than three months.

The Haliburton County COVID-19 Assessment Centre Partners would like to recognize all those who supported the establishment and operation of the Centre over the past three years.

The Haliburton Highlands Family Health Team (HHFHT) and Haliburton Family Medical Centre (HFMC) managed the day-to-day operations of the Haliburton County COVID-19 Assessment Centre, with a dedicated team of staff, the leadership of Kim Robinson, and the support of physicians, notably Dr. Judy Suke who provided physician leadership for the first two years. Haliburton County Paramedic Service was instrumental in providing staff coverage in the first two years, and Haliburton Highlands Health Services provided support in the way of supplies, laundry, lab services, the acquisition and maintenance of the trailer in the first two years, managing financial reporting, supporting communications, and in the provision of a staff member to assist with appointments and screening.

The Partners are also grateful to the Municipality of Dysart et al, who permitted use of the parking lot at the HFMC for the trailer, and Haliburton County staff, who assisted with directing traffic at the site.

Submitted by Haliburton Highlands Family Health Team, Haliburton County Paramedic Service, Haliburton Highlands Health Services





Lisa Mercer Broker Cell 705-457-0364 www.lisamercer.ca



RF/MAX PROFESSI^ONALS NORTH





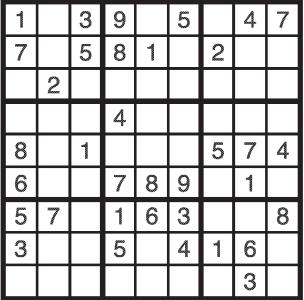
Mamma Mia!

Coaches Jane Symons, left, and Amber Meirik were gifted with flowers at the end of Minden Skating Club's end-of-year carnival. The club skated to songs of ABBA in a production of *Mamma Mia*. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff

Sudoku brought to you by



SUDOKU



Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles?
Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Level: Beginner

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Answers on page 14



Skaters perform spirals during the *Slipping Through My Fingers* number at Minden Skating Club's Carnival.



A CanSkater waves from the ice during Minden Skating Club's production of *Mamma Mia*.



Join us for a series of workshops to learn about the behind the scenes roles for community theatre.

Sign up for one or all!

SET DESIGN & COSTUMES



Saturday, April 15 10am to 4pm \$30 per person (lunch included!)

CREATING AND COLLECTING PROPS ON A BUDGET



Sunday, April 16 1pm to 4pm \$20 per person

STAGE MANAGEMENT



Friday, April 28 10am to 4pm \$30 per person (lunch included!)

STAGE LIGHTING



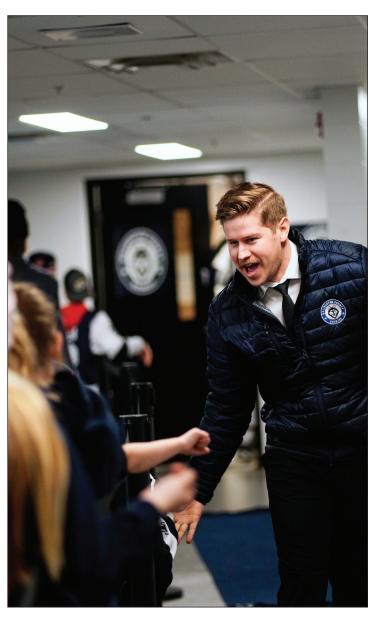
Saturday, April 29
7 1pm to 4pm
\$20 per person

To register or for more information:

Email: highlandstheatrelive@gmail.com
Call or text: 705-935-1870
https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/setting-the-stagetheatre-workshops-1992959

WITH THANKS TO HCDC FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT





Assistant coach Jordan Bailey meets fans ahead of the



So long, for now

An emotional end of the season for the Haliburton County Huskies, as they lost to the Wellington Dukes 3-2 on March 30. /TIM YANO special to the Times



The Haliburton County Huskies wrapped up their 2022/2023 season on March 30 against the Wellington Dukes. It was a close game, but the Dukes pulled forward with a 3-2 win, securing their spot in the next round.





Slow down for wildlife

The Haliburton Highlands Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) are reminding drivers to slow down and be aware of an increasing number of motor vehicles collisions involving wildlife. There have been four reported motor vehicle collisions involving deer within a twenty-four hour

Drivers are encouraged to use the following tips to reduce their risk of being involved in a collision with wildlife.

- When driving, scan the road ahead from shoulder to shoulder. If there is wildlife beside the road, slow down, stay alert and pass carefully. Animals can be unpredictable.
- Deer and many other wild animals are most active at dusk and dawn.
- When driving at night, use high beams where possible and watch for glowing eyes of animals.
- Watch for the yellow wildlife warning signs that indicate areas of increased risk. Slow down when travelling through these areas. Slowing down gives you more time to react.
- If an animal jumps out in front of your motor vehicle, brake firmly to slow down safely. Stay in your lane and never swerve suddenly. Swerving could cause loss of control and

• Never assume the animal will move out of your way. And remember, if one animal crosses the road, others may follow.

If you are involved in a motor vehicle collision, stay calm and pull off the road safely and turn on your hazard lights. Check for any injuries to yourself or your passengers. If the collision resulted in damage or personal injury, contact the OPP at 1-888-310-1122 or 9-1-1 if there is an emergency.

Being aware and taking precautions can reduce collisions, save lives and protect wild animals. The Ontario Provincial Police is committed to public safety, delivering proactive and innovative policing in partnership with our communities.

Submitted by the Haliburton Highlands OPP



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3	8	2	5	7	4	1	6	9
4	1	6	2	9	8	7	3	5

Jacob Dobson, from left, Liam Little, and Jessica Byers all competed on their respective teams in both the provincial and national college curling championships this winter. The HHSS alumni are pictured after the championship, /Photo submitted



HHSS alumni represent the community at Nationals

by VIVIAN COLLINGS

Times Staff

Getting to compete in a national college curling championship is a huge achievement in itself, but being in it with two of your fellow HHSS alumni curlers on separate teams is quite another.

Jessica Byers and Jacob Dobson, now curling for Humber College, and Liam Little, now curling for Mowhawk College, each competed on their respective teams at the National Championship from Mar. 15 to 19, but reminisce on the days they were on the ice together in Haliburton.

"Earning the opportunity to play at a Canadian National Championship is an honour, and being able to experience that with two other Haliburton County curlers who earned their own spot on their respective teams, makes me feel very proud of our small community," Byers said.

Little shared similar sentiments and said the reunion was one of the highlights of the tournament.

"It's always nice getting to see them and share the ice once again like the good old days," Little said.

Dobson's Humber team came first in the gold medal game against the SAIT Trojans from Alberta.

Little's Mowhawk team came third at the championship, ending the competitive curling season bringing home a bronze medal in his first national tournament.

"The experience was one to remember that's for sure. It was my first nationals and being able to walk away with a podium finish is pretty cool," Little said.

Byers' Humber team was at the top of seven round robin games and competed for the

bronze medal

"Although we fell short and lost the bronze medal game, we had a lot to be proud of. Our whole team won first team all-star honours," Byers said.

The three now college students from Haliburton have an extensive history playing together.

Byers and Dobson started in the Haliburton Curling Club youth program together in Grades 4 and 5 while Little was curling in Minden.

"We all started playing together when we entered high school, and have been playing with, and against each other since, through highschool championships, Under-20 and Under-18 competitive curling championships, mixed doubles competitions and now again with our college teams," Byers said.

Both Byers' and Little's teams felt pressure going into the medal games at the championship.

"The final game we played was very suspenseful knowing that we weren't guaranteed a medal. Our team played really well, and we got the job done," Little said.

Byers' team also competed for bronze.

"We played well in the playoff games, but like in all sports, sometimes it comes down to if the other team can make a perfect shot at the right times, and that's exactly what our oppositions did," Byers said.

The three HHSS alumni are taking with them an experience they will always cherish, and they look forward to next year's season.

"Competing alongside Liam and Jacob means so much because we know we have each other's back and is an amazing feeling knowing all the work we've put in coming from a small town has paid off," Byers said.



Minden champs

The Minden Monday Night Ladies Curling League finished off the season on Mar. 20. The winners were the team of frmo left, Tetra Palfrey, Eleanor Reed, Carol Alain, Tracy Gualberto. The league donated their prize money to the Minden Health Care Auxilary. /Photo submitted



Notice of a Complete Application and Public Meeting
For Proposed Zoning By-law Amendments

Take Notice that the Council of the Township of Minden Hills will hold a Public Meeting on:

Date: Thursday, April 27, 2023

Time: 9:00 AM

Location: This will be held as a virtual meeting

To Watch: Members of the Public wishing to watch the meeting can do so by joining the Meeting Live Stream Link: https://youtube.com/live/z2I_4UORKrU?feature=share

To Participate: Members of the public wishing to participate and make comment/speak at the Public Meeting(s) must: pre-register by emailing admin@mindenhills.ca by Wednesday April 26th before 4:00 PM or by attending and registering the morning of the meeting before 8:30 AM

Participants registering after 8:30 AM will not be permitted into the public meeting. Once registered, participants will automatically be placed into a holding room and brought into the meeting as permitted by the Chair.

To attend the Zoom virtual meeting via Web, type https://zoom.us/join or https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88474014525?pwd=SHh0a2p2TkZyS3kwUVBLbmlJcHVuZz09 into your browser or attend by dialing the number below:

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Written Submissions either in support of or opposition to the applications must be received prior to the Public Meeting and can be submitted to admin@mindenhills.ca

The purpose of the Public Meetings will be to consider zoning by-law amendment applications **PLZBA2023008** and **PLZBA2023020** pursuant to Section 34 of the Planning Act. The applications for Public Meeting are listed below:



PLZBA2023008 – Part Lot 27, Concession 4, Geographic Township of Minden, being a vacant lot on Crofters Lane and located on Kashagawigamog Lake (see Key Map).

Purpose and Effect of the Application: The subject property is currently zoned 'Shoreline Residential (SR)' and is located within the Waterfront designation of the Township's Official Plan. The proposed zoning by-law amendment would serve to rezone the lands from 'Shoreline Residential (SR)' to 'Shoreline Residential-Exception (SR-E)' in order to permit development of the vacant lot in the form of a single-detached dwelling with a basement having a setback of 12 metres to the high-water mark of the lake.



PLZBA2023020 – Part Lot 10, Concession 7, Geographic Township of Minden being address and located on Horseshoe Lake. (see Key Map).

Purpose and Effect of the Application: The subject property is currently zoned 'Shoreline Residential (SR)' and is located within the Waterfront designation of the Township's Official Plan. The proposed zoning by-law amendment would serve to rezone the lands from 'Shoreline Residential (SR)' to 'Shoreline Residential-Exception (SR-E)' in order to permit re-development of the lot in the form of a single-detached 2-storey dwelling having a setback of 7.8 metres to the high-water mark of the lake.

Additional Information regarding these applications is available for public inspection at the Township of Minden Hills Building and Planning Department by appointment only.

Any Person may attend the public meeting and/or make written or verbal representation either in support of or in opposition to the proposed Zoning By-law Amendments.

If a Person Or Public Body does not make oral submission at a public meeting or make written submission to the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills before the by-law is passed, the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the decision of the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills to the Ontario Land Tribunal.

If a Person Or Public Body does not make oral submission at a public meeting, or make written submission to the Council for the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills before the by-law is passed, the person or public body may not be added as a party to the hearing of an appeal before the Ontario Land Tribunal unless, in the opinion of the Tribunal, there are reasonable grounds to do so.

If You Wish to Be Notified of the decision of the Township of Minden Hills in respect to the proposed zoning by-law amendment(s), you must submit a written request to the Township of Minden Hills. For more information about this matter, including information about preserving your appeal rights, contact the undersigned at admin@mindenhills.ca.

Accessibility: The Township of Minden Hills is committed to providing services as set out in the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005. If you have accessibility needs and require alternative formats or other accommodations, please contact the undersigned.

Privacy Disclosure: As one of the purposes of the Planning Act is to provide for planning processes that are open and accessible, all written submissions, documents, correspondence, e-mails or other communications (including your name and address) form part of the public record and may be disclosed/made available by the Township as deemed appropriate, including anyone requesting such information. Please note that by submitting any of this information, you are providing the Township with your consent to use and disclose this information as part of the planning process.

Trisha McKibbin, Clerk 7 Milne Street, P.O. Box 359 Minden, ON. K0M 2K0

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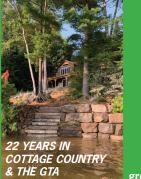
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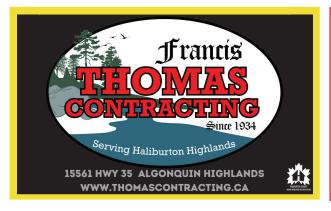


















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SUBMIT COVER LETTER AND RESUME TO: **Human Resources** Haliburton Highlands Health Services Box 115, Haliburton, ON KOM 1S0 E-mail: hr@hhhs.ca

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Minden Times

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- Demonstrated experience with the promotion and implementation of clinical best practices
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Haliburton Highlands Health Services



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RN's and RPN's are expected to be available for both Minden and Haliburton Hospital locations. In addition, opportunities are available in our two Long Term Care facilities, Hyland Wood and Hyland Crest.

Registered Nurses earns \$34.24 /hr - \$49.02/hr and is responsible for providing comprehensive care to patients, with predictable and unpredictable outcomes who may or may not be clinically stable. The successful candidate will possess a diploma/degree in Nursing and a current Certificate of Competence from the College of Nurses of Ontario. Previous acute care practice is preferred; previous emergency department or specialty department experience of 1 year or more is preferred. Recent experience is preferred. Temporary housing accommodation will be provided by HHHS.

Registered Practical Nurses earn \$31.20-\$31.80 and provide client care in accordance with the Professional Standards of the College of Nurses of Ontario. She or he, as a member of the health care team, has a significant role in promoting health, preventing illness, and helping clients attain and maintain the highest level of health possible in situations in which a client's condition is relatively stable, less complex and the outcomes of care are predictable. RPN's must have a diploma in Nursing, a Current Certificate of Competence from the College of Nurses of Ontario, current BCLS. Must have a demonstrated knowledge of RPN scope of practice, excellent organization and prioritization skills and an ability to fully communicate in English.

Personnel Support Workers earns \$22.70 - \$25.35 and provide resident care in relation to activities of daily living. PSW's help residents attain and maintain the highest level of health possible in situations in which a resident's condition is relatively stable, less complex and the outcomes of care are predictable. Successful completion of Personal Support Worker program which meets one of the following:

The vocational standards established by the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities, The standards established by the National Association of Career Colleges, or The standards established by the Ontario Community Support Association; and Must be a minimum of 600 hours in duration, counting both class time and practical experience.

Interested: Submit your application and resume to:

Human Resources Haliburton Highlands Health Services Box 115, Haliburton, ON K0M 1S0 E-mail: hr@hhhs.ca Fax: 705-457-4609



Minden Times

400 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY





FULL + PART-TIME:

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- Line Cook
- Kitchen Porter
- Property Maintenance

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Camp Timberlane is a co-ed residential summer camp for campers aged 6 – 16 and is looking to hire candidates to join our onsite Housekeeping / Laundry team and our Grounds Keeping and Maintenance. For more information about the camp, visit us at www.Camptimberlane.ca

Housekeeping/Laundry - Full Time, Temporary, Contract

Four positions available

Our Housekeeping and Laundry areas are managed with teams split between Housekeeping and Laundry.

Responsibilities include: cleaning of all buildings, accommodations, washrooms, shower facilities and common areas throughout the camp, including the turnover of living space throughout camp and overall upkeep of camp

facilities. Cleaning and light maintenance duties include, but not limited to sweeping, mopping, cleaning, painting and replenishing supplies needed for showers and washrooms.

Expected Start date: Spring 2023

Candidates will be cross-trained and or assigned to areas based on existing skills and previous work experience. Candidates must enjoy working outside. A typical work week is 40 hours with potential for overtime. Willing to take required government safety certifications such as WHMIS. Able to support a positive team environment. Salary: Housekeeping / Laundry: \$17.50 - \$19.50 per hour based on experience.

Submit application and resume by email to Jay@camptimberlane.ca

in the newspape

570 NOTICES



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Haliburton County **Snowmobile Association** is holding its Annual General Meeting Saturday, May 6, 2023 at 10 am at the Royal **Canadian Legion, Haliburton** Branch on Mountain Street. Election of a new Board of Directors, a recap of our activities, celebrating our volunteers, and other business will be on the agenda. Everyone welcome. For further info:

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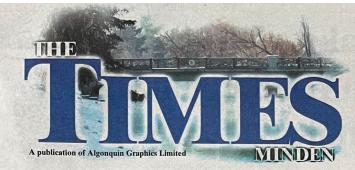
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MONDAY, ARIL 1, 2002 No. 2045





INCLUDING GST



Don't forget to set your clocks ahead this Sunday



Moving day

Dr. Peter Bennett opens his veterinary clinic in its new home on April 1 Page 3

Notable quote

"Like many lottery winners, we were not prepared to cope with apparent financial freedom."

Diana Ferguson, pg 4

Commentary

The sweet sound of vodelling will be heard loud and clear in Minden this Canada Day.

Clean and Clear by-law goes to the people

by ALLISON TAYLOR Times staff

For the next 30 days, the fate of the factious Clean and Clear by-law will rest in the hands of Minden Hills residents.

With the first and second reading of the by-law out of the way after being passed at the March 28 council meeting in a nail-biting recorded vote of four to three, the next step in the process of re-tabling the issue is to garner feedback from ratepayers in the municipality, said Reeve Ross Rigney.

Rigney brought the hotly debated issue back to the foreground this past month after the by-law was initially defeated at a meeting when he was on vacation in September of 2001. Upon his suggestion to the Legislation, Building, By-law and Fire Committee, the committee recommended that council re-table the by law in three

Step one was the first and second hearing of the by-law, which was passed last week. Now the council will observe a 30-day waiting period in an effort to get feedback from local residents. When that time is up, council members will hear the third and final reading of the by-law and cast their votes accordingly. The third reading is tentatively scheduled for the April 25 council meeting.

Copies of the proposed by-law, now named By-Law No. 02-21, will be posted on the township website and will also be available for anyone who requests a copy from the municipality.

The by-law has stirred things up in Minden Hills as it would regulate the maintenance of properties within the township and require those violating the by-law to clean their property at their own expense.

Councillors are split almost down the middle but for the most part their individual see REEVE'S page 6



Easter bunny visits CHACE

Haley Moore reaches in for her treat, ready to place the chocolate egg in her plastic Easter egg at the CHACE Resource Centre's Easter festivities on Thursday morning.

OPSEU strike has fish hatchery worried about thousands of fingerlings

by JERRY GROZELLE Times staff

With 10,000 Haliburton strain lake trout and 30,000 speckled trout resident at the Haliburton Highlands Outdoors Association Hatchery, there is some concern about what

1-800-701-7331

will happen if the current OPSEU strike continues much past the end of April. The usual time for stocking the fish is the end of April or the first week of May and if the strike continues, the MNR helicopters are not expected to be available to stock the lakes that are not see MNR page 2

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The market has shifted & inventory is low. Thinking of selling? Contact me for a FREE Market Valuation. I will provide you with a strategic marketing plan to sell your property

Haliburton Condominium \$669,000

• Large Balcony w/ Entertainment Space/Views

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1236 Sq Ft, 3rd Flr, 2 Bdrm, 2 Bath, A/C

• Head Lake (5 Lake Chain), Move-in Ready



Horseshoe Lake Rd \$674,900

- Spacious 4 Beds 2 Baths country home
- Situated on 3 acres with ample privacy
- Walkout basement-potential for in law suite
- 5 min to public access-Horseshoe Lake



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Kennisis Lake – Private Retreat

• 2 bd,/bath +Bunkie /bath, Laundry, 200 amp

• Heat pump, heats, & cools, Generac generator

Screen rm, lift docking, great view of water

· 3 sided deck connects heated bunkie/workshop





Beech Lake \$749,000

- Open concept 3-season cottage with 4 bedrooms
- Oversized 1 car-garage with & updated bunkie Clean, hard-packed sand beach & big lake views
- Amazing afternoon sun & sunsets!





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- If you're thinking of selling...CALL ME!
- Strike while the market is hot!











Miskwabi Lake \$1,499,900







Silver Beach \$847,500

- The new standard in luxury lakeside living
- 2600sqft of finished space, 4 beds/4 baths
- Main floor primary bedroom & ensuite Exclusive use of clubhouse & waterfront

Haliburton by the Lake \$969,000

- 4,000+ Sq Ft family home w/ 2-car garage Open concept with 4 bedrooms, 3 baths
- Well-maintained with beautiful gardens Boat slip & waterfront park on 5-lake chain
- 4-Season custom Viceroy • Over 2700 sq. ft on three levels
- Deep clean shoreline, western exposure
- some 2-lake chain, Municipal road access



Oblong Lake \$599,000

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- 0.9-acre parcel with north-western exposure
- Over 700 feet of clean, sand & rock frontage
- Driveway installed & building site partially cleared
- Part of a 2-lake chain with premium Haliburton Lake



Loop Road \$575,000

• 5 Beds / 3 Bath Home on 10+ Acres!

Many Recent Upgrades, Attached Garage

Perennial Gardens, Spacious Wraparound Deck









Close to Haliburton!

- •1.75 Ac Lot Close to Downtown Haliburton
- Original Farmhouse on Lot
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Sunnyside St \$849,000

• New 1500+ sq ft 3 bed + 2 bath bungalow

Quiet neighbourhood close to Haliburton

Double attached garage, full basement, Tarion





Thinking About Selling?

- This is the time to think about listing
- Listings Needed!
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Canning Lake \$3,500,000

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- Double Garage, Guest Cottage, Wet slip Boathouse
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- Completely renovated
- Large in town lot • Double garage + workshop





• 3 Beds / 2 Baths, 1300 + sqft Southeastern Exposure, 100' of Frtg

· Large Bunkie w/ Infrared Sauna · 20 Mins to Haliburton, 10 Mins to Fort Irwin



Incredible 194-acre parcel just mins from Minden Long gated driveway to private, cleared site • Large frontage on picturesque Walker's Pond Trails throughout to explore, teaming with wildlife

"We are egg-cited about the Spring market! Wishing you and your family a safe & wonderful Easter long weekend!"

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